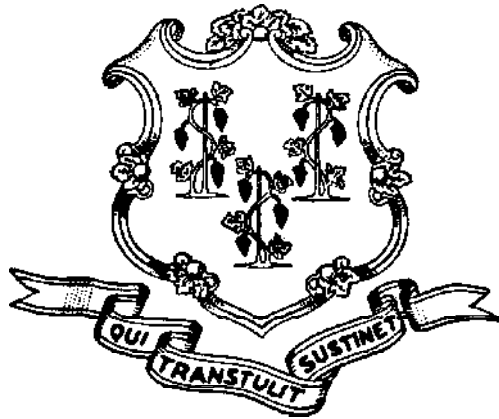


State of Connecticut

Dry Cleaning Establishment Remediation Fund

Guidelines and Eligibility Requirements



Administered by

**The Department of Economic and Community Development
James Abromaitis, Commissioner**

**Infrastructure and Real Estate Division
Chester Camarata, Executive Director
Dimple Desai, Program Manager**

Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development
DRY CLEANING ESTABLISHMENT REMEDIATION PROGRAM

The Dry Cleaning Establishment Remediation Program is administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 12-263m (a-g) . The Department of Economic and Community Development may rely upon the Department of Environmental Protection or other agencies/parties which it deems necessary to ascertain whether a given proposal meets the technical criteria of the program. If you have any questions related to this program, please call Mr. Dimple Desai, Program Manager @ (860) 270-8151 or Mr. Brian Dillon, Project Engineer @ (860) 270-8156.

Program Description

The Department of Economic and Community Development can provide grants to eligible dry cleaning establishments for the clean-up, containment, or mitigation of pollution resulting from releases of tetrachloroethylene, stoddard solvent, or other chemicals used in dry cleaning. The grants may also be used for measures undertaken to prevent such pollution which are approved by the Department of Environmental Protection, and for providing potable drinking water when necessary. The funds are provided from the State of Connecticut's dry cleaning establishment remediation account. Monies collected by the State's 1% surcharge on dry cleaning services are deposited into this account.

Eligibility Requirements

All eligible applicants must:

- Be current in filing any state and federal taxes including the dry cleaning establishment surcharge returns (Form OP-374) imposed by Connecticut General Statutes §12-263m
- Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development that the affected establishment is using or has previously used tetrachloroethylene or stoddard solvent or other chemicals for the purpose of cleaning clothes or other fabrics. CGS § 12-263m (c)
- Demonstrate that they have been in business and maintained their principal office and place of business in the State of Connecticut for at least one year prior to its application for assistance. CGS § 12-263m (c)
- Prove that they cannot obtain conventional financing on reasonable terms or in reasonable amounts. Such proof shall include at least two denial letters from financial institutions which indicate that the project was turned down for financing. CGS § 12-263m (c)
- Certify that there are no outstanding litigations involving the applicant and/or his representatives
- Be the current operator of the establishment
- Identify the responsible party to complete the site remediation and the funding source to complete the project

Use of Funds

Proceeds of the grant shall be used:

- For remediation projects to remediate the soil and groundwater contamination
- To provide potable drinking water to the adjacent property owners whose drinking water supply has been polluted as a result of the activities at the establishment
- To implement measures to prevent future site contamination which are consistent with applicable guidelines and regulations of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) or measures approved by the DEP

Evaluation Criteria

Projects will be prioritized based on risk to public health, magnitude of the problem, effectiveness of proposal (cost and environment), date of application and availability of funds. The Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development reserves the right to grant expedited review of an application in instances where public health and safety is in danger.

Application Requirements

In order to be considered for funding, applications must be **complete, type written**, and **include** the required attachments as noted in the instructions and application. Incomplete applications will be put on hold.

Location

Grant proceeds shall be limited to eligible activities conducted in or involving active dry cleaning establishments located within the State of Connecticut.

Grant Size Restrictions

No dry cleaning establishment shall receive more than \$50,000 from the fund in a given calendar year. Dry cleaning establishments that have a release that was initially reported to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection prior to December 31, 1990 are to bear all costs up to \$20,000 for a given project. All other drycleaning establishments are to bear all costs up to \$10,000 for a given project. CGS § 12-263m (d).

Applicants applying in March or August must wait a year before applying for another round of funds.

Length of Project

Maximum eligible project length is three years. All multiple year projects are to be placed on a timeline with activities grouped together based on a calendar year. At the conclusion of each of these yearly project stages, the project will be reviewed to determine if all the component activities of that stage have been completed to the satisfaction of the Department of Economic and Community Development and/or Department of Environmental Protection. The decision to fund the work on a subsequent stage of a project will be based on the evaluation criteria, availability of the funds, and the successful completion of all preceding stages of the approved project. All eligible component activities of any multiple year project should be proposed and approved at the time of the initial application submittal.

Application Turnaround

Applicants will be notified in writing of the status of their application within ninety days of the closing date of the application period including all necessary supporting materials. A new application must be made if an application has been "on hold" for one year or more with all the requested documents before the deadline for that particular calendar year.

Method of Payment

The terms of disbursement for any award are negotiable. Grantees may be advanced a portion of the award to cover eligible carrying costs for the project, however, under no circumstances will more than 80% of the award for any given calendar year be disbursed prior to completion of that stage of the project. When all technical procedures for a given project stage have been completed as outlined in the proposal, and two copies of appropriate invoices and two copies of a summary report have been provided to DECD, the remaining award balance for that project stage will be disbursed to the applicant.

Department of Environmental Protection Review and Compliance

The Department of Environmental Protection can review a remedial proposal if such action is being performed in accordance with the requirements of an administrative order (including consent orders), stipulated judgement, court order or decree. DEP may review any report related to the dry cleaning establishment, including but not limited to, scope of work, assessment reports, and remedial action plan if the DECD Commissioner or his designee feels that DEP review is necessary. A letter of compliance issued by the DEP Commissioner is required at the completion of the remediation project; or where applicable, at the discretion of the DEP Commissioner, a letter of compliance from a State of Connecticut Licensed Environmental Professional is required.